WHO Report on Delhi

2634. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the revelation made by WHO that Delhi is the third grubbiest city in the world; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN). (a) and (b) No such finding of the WHO has come to the notice of the Government. However, according to a WHO study on urban air pollution the suspended particulate matter (airborne dust) in Delhi is considerably high in certain parts of the city on account of natural conditions and industrial activities.

Persons below povedty line in P.U.

2635. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who were below poverty line in U.P. at the beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of persons who have been brought above the poverty line during the last three years, year-wise; aud

(c) what are the achievements of the 20-Point Programme, IRDP and NREP in U.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYAN): (a) and (b) The National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted quinquennial, Household Consumer Expenditure Surveys in 1977-78 (32nd Round) and 1983 (38th Round). The reports on these surveys give the consumption level for different items by Expenditure Class and also the number of Households with their composition by each Expenditure class. The results contained in the reports on 1977-78 Survey have been utilised by the Planning Commission for the estimation of the percentage and number of people below poverty line. As per the 1977-78 Survey, the number of people below the poverty line and their percentage to the population in rural/urban areas of Uttar Pradesh are as given below:—

	Number of persons below poverty line (lakhs)	Percentage of population
Rural	429.9	50.2%
Urban	72.3	49.2%
TOTAL	502.2	50.1%

Estimates of the number of persons below the poverty line in 1979-80 i.e. the base year of the Sixth Five Year Plan, and of those who have been brought above the poverty line during the last 3 years of the Sixth Plan i.e. 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 have not been worked out for any State including Uttar Pradesh. However, the results of the 1983 Survey of the NSS are being analysed and the number of persons below the poverty line for 1983-84 in U.P. will be available after the analysis is completed.

(c) A statement giving the targets and achievements under the Twenty Point Programme in Uttar Pradeh during the years 1982-83, 83-84 and 84-85 is attached. [*See* Appendix CXXXV Annexure No. 57, IRDP and NREP from part of the Twenty Point Programme.

Harnessing of marine algal bio-mass

2636. SHRI DULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been initiated to harness the marine algal biomass, which has a great potential to meet food and energy needs;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and